

From: [Chris Rowe](#)
To: [David Cooper/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#)
Cc: [Bob Fitzgerald/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Chris.Rowe@westhillsnc.org](#); [Craig Cooper/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Frederick Schauflier/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Jim Vreeland/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Kathleen Salyer/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Nicole Moutoux/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Steven John/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Dana Barton/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Luis Garcia-Bakarich/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#)
Subject: Re: SSFL Site Concerns
Date: 05/15/2009 02:08 PM

David,

I want to be very clear here. I have no desire to be the leader of the SSFL community. What I have always asked for is an all inclusive CAG that would represent all of the voices that are concerned about the site. I have been told by DTSC that they could not be the leaders of this CAG. I have been speaking to DTSC - they are the lead agency about this issue. They and I do not want CAG wars or 501c wars.

I have suggested that the Workgroup be expanded to be inclusive rather than exclusive. Right now, only a few people are on that Workgroup phone call. Some get a great deal of information before other community members.

Yes, I am aware of the technical knowledge of some community members and their long term involvement. However, what I do disagree with is their ability to apply what they know to the health risks offsite in the community today.

This is like "shouting fire in a theater" to me, and it creates a great deal of **alarm and distress** every time I see it being done.

Chris

On Fri, May 15, 2009 at 11:03 AM, <Cooper.David@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Bob --

We have a long and robust history with Chris Rowe. She is very aware of the TASC meeting on 26 May (she was a by-name invitee) to address the complex documents issue. SSFL is not on the NPL, so the TASC must take the place of a TAG. Regarding the balance of community perspectives, to assure that her issues and concerns are factored into EPA's work, the two RPMs, Nicole and Craig, (and myself) are in constant contact with Chris either through e-mails and on the phone (sometimes multiple times per day) and she is on our mailing list for site updates. I think that she's referring to the Interagency Workgroup, which is dominated by Dan Hersh and facilitated by an EPA contractor. The two agree on the need to clean up the site, but disagree strongly and publicly on the current risk to the community. By challenging Dan publicly at the Interagency Workgroup, Chris has received a negative response from the attendees. She is always free to speak at the meetings, and did so at the most recent Workgroup meeting a couple of months back. However, it did get very testy and the facilitator intervened when Chris attacked Dan's credentials to be the community leader (he and the NRDC successfully sued the PRPs). Recently Chris tried to create an elaborate separate forum to discuss SSFL, issues, an all-day affair where she invited many high-ranking electeds and gov't officials. The effort collapsed and the giant meeting was not held.

If Chris led you two, or anyone within earshot, to believe that she did not have a voice in the SSFL process, I'm sorry. She attended EPA's December rad kick-off meeting and I interviewed her for the CIP. We have kept her involved throughout this recent effort.

-- Dave

From: Bob Fitzgerald/R9/USEPA/US
To: David Cooper/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Chris.Rowe@westhillsnc.org, Nicole Moutoux/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Craig Cooper/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Vreeland/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Steven John/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Frederick Schauffler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Kathleen Salyer/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/14/2009 11:03 AM
Subject: SSFL Site Concerns

Hi, David.

Steven John and I attended an open house at Senator Feinstein's LA office yesterday and met Chris Rowe from the West Hills Neighborhood Council there.

Chris spoke with us about her concerns with the SSFL site and we suggested to her that she may want to partner with you to help address 2 of her concerns.

One of her concerns is that her neighborhood council receives large and complex SSFL site technical documents but doesn't have the expertise to review and analyze these documents. We suggested that perhaps the Superfund program's technical assistance grant opportunities may be a good way to help.

Another concern is that there appears to be an imbalance of community perspectives being communicated about the site, particularly at public meetings. We suggested that she may want to contact you and partner with you to develop tactics to address this issue - by fact sheets, the community involvement plan, or perhaps even by facilitating the meetings in a way that ensures that all perspectives are given equal time.

I hope you find this helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Bob

213-244-1814 (voice mail server down, please use email if reply needed)